

# 2016 CHILDREN'S STATE POLICY AGENDA

Advocate for a comprehensive, integrated, culturally competent, and coordinated system, and the necessary funding, for California's children prenatal through age 5 and their families that optimizes early childhood development.

## **CHILD HEALTH**

Ensure coordination across the health care access system to ensure access for every pregnant mother and child ages 0 to 5 with affordable and comprehensive health insurance coverage.

Improve parent and young children's knowledge about and access to healthy foods and physical activity, including support for state and/or local taxes on sweetened beverages and/or unhealthy foods.

Support and promote universal developmental screenings, assessment, referral, and treatment.

## **EARLY LEARNING**

Expand access to quality early care and education programs for children ages 0 to 3.

Support implementation of high-quality universal preschool access for all low-income four-year-old children, and high-quality transitional kindergarten and kindergarten state-wide.

Support a high-quality early learning workforce through strengthened qualifications, compensation, stability, diversity, and robust professional development systems.

Promote statewide access to and participation in successful Quality Rating and Improvement Systems.

#### STRONG AND ENGAGED FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

Support evidence-based parent education and engagement, including new parent engagement on child brain development and Talk. Read. Sing.

Support sustainability of Family Resource Centers and other community hubs for integrated services for children and families.

Increase supports for breastfeeding, family leave, and baby-friendly policies in all settings.

Expand voluntary home visit programs.

#### **REVENUE**

Promote inclusion of funding for children ages 0 to 5 and their families in existing and new revenue policy discussions.

Promote regulation of tobacco-related products, including electronic cigarettes, and sustainability of licensing and enforcement programs.